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GETTING IMPATIENT.

Congress Restive Over the Delay in
Furnishing Hawaiian Information.

THEIR REQUESTS HELD IN CONTEMPT.

A Suggested Excuse Believed to
Have No Valid Standing.

UNWARRANTED INSINUATION.

Congress is becoming very impatient over the delay on the part of the administration to respond to the request of the two houses for information concerning Hawaii. While the House resolution was passed only on Wednesday, there has been an abundance of time since the Senate adopted resolutions of inquiry for all the information desired to have been furnished. The Senate has adjourned until Monday, and, of course, cannot now receive the information until then, but had they not been informed that the communication was not to be expected this adjournment would not have been taken.

A Feeling of Resentment.

The feeling in Congress is that Mr. Cleveland is disposed to treat their requests with contempt and the resentment against the administration is growing stronger among those whom Mr. Cleveland has counted on for support. The policy adopted by Mr. Cleveland of leaving the administration to take care of itself and repudiating the administration scheme to put the queen back on the throne is one which will be generally repudiated by the country, and it is not only bold and denigrating the whole scheme.

Received With Contempt.

The suggestion conveyed in matter given out last night that the delay in sending in documents was due to the failure to find certain letters assumed to have been written on the Hawaiian subject by Mr. Blaine is received with contempt by men of both parties who have any standing in Congress. It is suggested that if any such existed, letters discovered since the policy of Mr. Cleveland was inaugurated cannot be cited as an excuse for the policy, and the administration is in very bad straits if they are reduced to the necessity of hunting up, and applying to the country, reasons to excuse action already taken.

What Mr. Stevens' Letter Shows.

The letter from Mr. Stevens to Mr. Blaine, published this morning, is generally received as an indication of a disposition on his part to watch over the American interest wherever they might be, and is showing very conclusively that the native conspiracy for the overthrow of the queen was in progress at the time of his writing this letter and that his disposition was to oppose it if the proprieties of the case permitted. The insinuation is made that because no reply to this letter had been received, there has been some tampering with the records.

A Violent Assumption.

The date of Mr. Stevens' letter shows how violent this assumption is. It was written on the 8th of March, 1893, and could hardly have been received at the department before the last of the month. At that time the administration was in a position to occupy the minds of both Mr. Blaine and Mr. Harrison, and there was nothing urgent in the communication which required an immediate answer. A little more than two months from then Mr. Blaine retired, and it is entirely probable, therefore, that Mr. Blaine's letter, and this letter at all, and the insinuation that his reply has been abstracted is without warrant.

Minister Stevens' Letter.

Minister Stevens' letter referred to is supposed to allude to the machinations of the Wilcox party against the government of Queen Liliuokalani. Mr. Stevens said:

"I have information which I deem reliable that there is an organized revolutionary party on the islands, composed largely of native Hawaiians and a considerable number of white and half-whites, led chiefly by individuals of the latter class. This party is hostile to the queen and to her chief confidant, especially opposed to the coming to the throne of the half-English heir apparent now being educated in England, and means to gain its object either by force, or by the use of arms, or by the use of its own members or else to overthrow the monarchy and establish a republic, with the native view of the matter. A portion of this party means only the former, and the accomplishment of the latter. Failing to accomplish the latter, a portion of the party would seek the latter alternative."

The Publication.

The publication of the letter from Minister Stevens seems to be very pleasing to the members of the administration. It was only recently that the State Department recognized the apparent importance of this letter, and since then the attention of Congressmen friendly to the policy of restoration has been called to it. A number of congressional supporters of the policy have read the document, and their assurances that it has a very important bearing on the Hawaiian question have, it is said, caused the administration to consider it an effective piece of ammunition. The inference drawn by some of the administration is that Mr. Blaine did not intend to reply to the letter, perhaps for the reason that a hypothetical case was presented, and it had been the custom of the State Department, as well as of other executive offices, not to pass upon questions based upon supposition.

The Message.

The President's message on the Hawaiian question and the correspondence connected therewith will not go to Congress before Monday. It is not absolutely certain that they will go in on that day, but there are strong reasons for the belief that they will. The only thing in the way of such action is the possible conclusion of the President's advisers that "it is not compatible with public interests" to let the public know what Minister Willis has been instructed to do until after he has done it.

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Vol. 83, No. 20,756.

SECY HERBERT'S REPLY.

To Mr. Holman's Resolution in Regard
to Premiums to Contractors.

Reports From the Chief Naval Con-
structor and Chief Engineer as to
the Increased Speed of Cruisers.

Nearly, if not all, of the information relative to the premiums paid contractors for increased speed in naval vessels, called for by the resolution introduced in the House by Mr. Holman of Indiana, is already before

THE TARIFF BILL.

Members Refuse to Be Bound by a
Party Caucus.

The democrats who are seeking a caucus on the tariff bill find that a large number of the House who agree to go into the caucus refuse to be bound by it, and it is evident that if it is held it will be nothing more than a conference for an exchange of views. Thus far those who are organized in opposition to the bill have not been successful in the fight, and members to agree to take the extreme position of voting against the measure if it is not satisfactorily amended. They believe, however, that when members return from their homes after the holiday recess the opposition to the bill will be stronger and more widely spread. Some of the members represent constituencies which are very seriously affected by the bill and are expected to return with a determination to either to change or defeat the measure. It seems now, however, to expect the opposition to the bill to be successful.

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WASHINGTON, D. C., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1893—TWELVE PAGES.

APLUNGE TO DEATH.

Collapse of the Big Bridge at
Louisville.

MANY WORKMEN KILLED IN THE WRECK.

Varying Estimates of the Loss of
Life.

FAULTY MECHANISM BLAMED.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Dec. 15.—At twenty minutes past 10 o'clock this morning the fourth span of the ill-fated Louisville and Jeffersonville bridge fell into the river. This proved to be the most frightful of the many disasters to the bridge, which has wrecked lives and swept away fortunes in a manner almost inconceivable. At 11 o'clock it was known twenty-five men had been killed, as that many dead bodies had been recovered from the water. The bodies were most horribly mangled. The shock of the accident was witnessed by men employed along the river front and on the boats plying up and down the river. The ferry company at once sent two boats to assist in securing the bodies of the dead and dying and rescuing the workmen still alive. About sixty men were at work on the span when it gave way and plunged into the river. Both banks of the river were soon crowded. Many women were in the throngs, and it was apparent they were the wives and children of those who had gone down to death. Three patrol wagons were kept busy, and the guards were assisted by the police in the rescue of the dead and injured. The wagons could not go to and from the hospital fast enough to receive those taken from the river.

Deaths Estimated at 180.

Later it was reported that the officers of the Maj. McKenzie, the government boat, said 180 men were lost.

The officers attributed the accident to the giving away of the girders, due to faulty mechanism.

The Injured were taken to the city hospital at the rate of about one a minute.

At 11:15 seven men had been brought in. All were unconscious, and, as a result, their names could not be learned. Some were white and others colored.

Mr. Baird's Account.

Mr. J. W. Baird, secretary and treasurer of the bridge company, was one of the witnesses to the disaster. Mr. Baird was in the company's office on the fourth floor of the Commerce building. The bridge is in plain view of his room, and it is his custom to watch the progress of the workmen through his field glasses. When the span fell Mr. Baird had the glasses on. He even the shock of the sight of the terrible death plunge was enough to completely overcome him for a time.

He said in reply to a question:

"I am the originator of the plan to build the bridge, and I guess I will be eternally damned for it."

According to Mr. O. E. Selby, the civil engineer in charge, who was on the bridge at the time the span fell, there were only thirty workmen on the collapsed portion of the bridge, the engineer corps being at another portion of the structure. Mr. Selby thought fifteen of those who went down were dead, and said the others had even chances for their lives. He had no time to talk further, as his immediate attention was needed at the scene of the calamity.

James Trent, a painter, who resides at 22 1/2

18th street, this city, was on the span, twenty feet from the pier nearest the Kentucky shore, when he heard a peculiar crashing noise. With Ernest Miller, Robert Woolford, Charles Pope, and a workman named Carter, he ran for his life toward the pier, and all succeeded in reaching a scaffold for holding on the masonry, when the span went down. The four men were saved, but Trent and his companions slid down to the river's surface, when they were rescued by a tugboat which hurried to the spot. Trent asserts that the collapse was preceded by two distinct shocks, which gave warning, but too late to allow many of them to escape.

A Scene of Excitement.

Consternation, excitement and, for a time, disorder ran rampant at the foot of the big street shortly after the disaster. For a while the energy and patience of the police were seriously taxed, but finally they brought order out of disorder. Friends, mothers, fathers, sisters, all were present to witness the scene, and the scene was a marvellous one, when the bodies were taken from the Hotspur and loaded into the wagons on the river bank.

List of Victims.

It is very difficult to secure a correct list of the unfortunates, but among the thirty or forty victims brought to the shore by the Hotspur, the City of Jeffersonville, the Major Mackenzie and others, that did noble work in the following are known to have been killed:

Lester Garlock, Louisville.

John Courtney, Louisville.

Kelley of Allegheny City.

Harry Simmons, Louisville.

George Moore, Louisville.

James Leech, Louisville.

Charles Pope, Louisville.

Tim Murphy was taken to No. 715 Fulton street and cannot recover.

George Lilly of Carter Station, Tenn.

George Brown.

It is not known how many victims of the ill-fated bridge fell into the river, still it is possible to give the following list of those who were on the bridge, but were saved:

John Glen, Major Hall, P. Hade, George Castle, Maj. Trent, Ernest Miller, R. Woolford, Charles Pope, John Harnor and Donnelly Leclair.

The financial loss amounts to \$200,000, and is borne by the Phoenix Bridge Company, which had the contract for the work.

To Destroy Derelicts.

The Navy Department has made arrangements to clear the path of navigation between New York and the mouth of the Mississippi of all wrecks and derelicts that may be regarded as dangerous to navigation. This important work has been assigned to the cruiser Kearsarge and that vessel will start from New York in a few days fully equipped with torpedoes and other explosives necessary to the execution of her orders. She will proceed leisurely as far south as Key West, destroying every derelict that may be found in the course of navigation, and will continue her cruise to Galveston in case it is reported that there are any dangerous wrecks in the Gulf. The British government has promised to operate in this movement for the safety of ocean navigation and the protection of mariners, and will dispatch a war vessel on a similar errand on the high seas along the path usually followed by trans-Atlantic steamers.

PROVIDING A SALARY.

The Senate District Committee Alters
the Sealer of Weights Bill.

Other Bills Acted on Today—Favorable and Unfavorable Reports—Members Present Today.

The Senate District committee met at 10:30 this morning and were in session over two hours. A great deal of business was transacted. The important question under the reorganization of the office of the sealer of weights and measures was solved. There has been a bill introduced in each house providing for the appointment of a sealer and an assistant sealer, to be paid by fees at the rate of \$1 for each inspection made. The House bill was passed, containing a very loosely drawn section, which practically gives the sealer power to inspect the weights and measures as frequently as he pleases, and the only limitation was that he should inspect at least twice a year, that he might inspect 300 times if he chose to do so, and receive \$1 each time from each place of business.

When the bill was taken up today by the Senate committee this defect was noted and it was argued that the inspection of the weights and measures should be made by the city, but that the office be salaried and no tax should be placed on the shopskeepers and others, excepting the general public, for the support of the District government. Senator McMillin presented these views clearly and strongly, and the committee adopted the bill to perfect a bill, which he presented in rough form. This bill provides for the appointment of a sealer and an assistant sealer, to be paid by fees at the rate of \$2,000 a year and an assistant sealer at \$1,200 a year. The District Commissioners are to furnish him with an office in a central portion of the city and also with a horse and wagon and a laborer when he may need one. There are to be no fees for the sealer or his assistant, and his total income is between \$4,000 and \$5,000 a year. Mr. McMillin is directed by the committee to report the bill and that which came from the House.

Favorable Reports.

Favorable report was ordered, with certain amendments, on the bill to simplify the laws of deeds of conveyance, trust and releases, which is in charge of Senator Faulkner. The amendments are purely technical.

Senator Proctor was directed to report favorably the House bill, making service connection with water mains and sewers and the bill to amend the act of March 3, 1879, relating to the District of Columbia.

Other Actions.

The bill to open minor streets was rejected by a vote of 10 to 9, and an adverse report was ordered on it. An adverse report was also ordered on the bill for the relief of John W. Daniel. The House bill for closing alleys from square 751 was ordered to be reported favorably, and the Senate bill postponed indefinitely. Similar action was taken on the bill to release and turn over to the District of Columbia certain property in the District.

The House bill extending North Capitol street to the Soldiers' Home will be reported favorably in lieu of the Senate bill to the same effect. A favorable report was ordered on the bill for the relief of John W. Daniel. The House bill for closing alleys from square 751 was ordered to be reported favorably, and the Senate bill postponed indefinitely. Similar action was taken on the bill to release and turn over to the District of Columbia certain property in the District.

The meeting this morning was attended by Senators Harris, Faulkner, Hunt, Martin, McMillin, Hanchard, and Senator Proctor. The sealer of weights and measures for the District, Mr. Bond, appeared before the committee and was examined at length as to the duties of his office and its requirements.

IN

Mr. Cobb has introduced a bill in the House providing that the attorney, the assistant attorney, and the special assistant attorney for the District of Columbia be authorized and empowered to administer oaths and affirmations, in the discharge of their official duties, and in all cases where a justice of the peace is empowered so to do; and providing the same penalties for perjury. Any person refusing to answer the interrogatories of the attorney, the assistant attorney or the special assistant attorney, or who, in the investigation of crime and misdemeanors, says the bill, shall be deemed guilty of misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be fined not more than two hundred dollars.

DISTRICT IN CONGRESS.

Grounds for Divorce.—Mr. Johnson of Ohio has introduced a bill in the House adding the following to the existing law as grounds for divorce under the District laws: Conviction of felony and confinement in the penitentiary, or confinement in any other institution, or in any asylum or hospital for the insane for a period of seven years, and when the party so confined shall have been pronounced hopelessly insane and incurable. This act shall not apply to the party so confined after its passage and shall apply to all cases, whether now pending or hereafter to be instituted.

A New Office.

Mr. Terry of Arkansas has introduced a bill in the House creating the office of foreman of press work in the government printing office, who shall have complete control and supervision, under the immediate head of the printer, of all the presses and pressmen employed in the government printing office. He shall be a practical pressman and a member of the International union containing the greatest number of the public printers of the United States. He shall receive the same salary as, and be co-equal with, the foreman of printing, and shall be appointed by the public printer.

Incorporation Laws.

Mr. Bingham has introduced a bill in the House to amend the incorporation laws relating to trusts, and to provide for the following: "That fifteen or more persons, citizens of the United States, may associate themselves together to form a company for the purpose of carrying on a security, guarantee, or insurance business, or a mortgage business, or a business of any kind, and may be less than \$5,000. Provided, that the capital stock of any company so incorporated shall be at least \$5,000, and the class of business may be fixed at \$5,000 or more, and that any such company may be incorporated by any one or more persons, and may be undertaken required by or given pursuant to law."

Goes to Paris.

Maj. S. C. Kellogg, fourth cavalry, now acting as one of the commissioners of the Chickamauga and Chattanooga national parks, has been selected as military attaché of the United States embassy at Paris, a position that has practically been vacant since the recall of Capt. Borup of the engineer corps several months ago on the unsatisfactory allegation that he had betrayed the plans of French fortifications to Germany and other governments. He was relieved from duty at the French capital in the interest of army, and not because it was believed that he was in the least guilty of the dishonorable conduct referred to.

George H. Thomas, and is well equipped with education and experience for the important semi-diplomatic duties of his new position.

NO NEED OF HURRY.

President Cleveland Not Considering
the District Offices.

OTHER MATTERS TAKE HIS TIME.

Rumors that Are Believed to Be
Without Foundation.

ONE DEMOCRAT'S VIEWS.

Those interested in the appointments to offices in the District of Columbia are of the opinion that the President has decided not to take that matter up for some time yet. It is said that there are other matters of public business pressing for the attention of the President, are of more pressing importance than the filling of offices in the District. It is understood that the President thinks that the District appointments can wait until he has disposed of other matters which are pressing upon his attention in connection with the government of this country. As far as the President is concerned, it is said, he is not aware that any vital interest in the administration of the affairs of the District will suffer if he continues to defer action in the direction of making changes in the offices of the District. This is understood to be the present policy of the President in District affairs by those who personally, or in the interest of friends, have informed themselves of the situation. As far as it is possible to learn today there has been no change announced from the White House in this particular, and it is asserted that the President is not now giving any special attention to the subject of the fitness of the line of candidates who have been mentioned in connection with the filling of places which are conceded to citizens of the District.

No Particular Hurry.

All the reasons which could be advanced to prove that it is of great moment that some action be taken in the premises at once have, it is believed, been called to the attention of the President, and in spite of these arguments it is said that he still is of the opinion that a further delay will not prove of material injury. This position is generally recognized, and District politicians and their friends are resting on their oars. Of course, there is still some missionary work being carried on, and in the interview which the President has had lately with the statesmen who are here attending the sessions of Congress, it is said by those who are present, that the President views which take place on grave questions of state, the names of citizens of the District are mentioned in the Presidential ear. But, of course, all that can be done is to wait, and it may be truthfully said that the President has not yet taken up for consideration the appointments to District offices.

Say a Good Word.

It is also known that members of Congress in their intercourse with many of the citizens of the District are apt to be specially informed of the fitness and the qualifications of certain well known citizens of the District. In this way some of the names of certain well known offices in the District are mentioned in the Presidential ear. But, of course, all that can be done is to wait, and it may be truthfully said that the President has not yet taken up for consideration the appointments to District offices.

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